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**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 17**  
**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003**  
**INTRODUCED BY**  
**Gail C. Beam**

**FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**A JOINT MEMORIAL**  
**REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A**  
**MEDICAID WAIVER TO MAKE PERSONS RELEASED FROM STATE**  
**INSTITUTIONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE MEDICAID PROGRAMS.**

**WHEREAS, many of the persons released from state**  
**institutions have need for continued health care after their**  
**return to the community; and**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico's medicaid program covers only adults**  
**with categorical disabilities and incomes under thirty-seven**  
**percent of the 1995 federal poverty level and persons with**  
**dependents who are receiving federal supplemental security**  
**income; and**

**WHEREAS, qualification for supplemental security income**  
**has become increasingly difficult; and**

**WHEREAS, any New Mexican receiving medicaid benefits loses**

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1 eligibility upon entering a state institution, but does not  
2 automatically resume enrollment upon release from that  
3 institution; and

4 WHEREAS, a large percentage of New Mexico citizens  
5 returning to their communities after institutionalization need  
6 medications and continued treatment for various health  
7 conditions immediately upon release but have no access to  
8 either;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department be  
11 requested to apply for a medicaid waiver from the federal  
12 centers for medicare and medical services to enable New Mexico  
13 citizens meeting medicaid eligibility who leave institutions  
14 and who were enrolled in medicaid prior to institutionalization  
15 to enjoy presumptive eligibility and immediate access to  
16 medicaid benefits upon completion of the enrollment process;  
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the medicaid waiver enable  
19 other New Mexico citizens leaving institutions to be eligible  
20 for medicaid upon completion of the enrollment process; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the medicaid waiver include  
22 all options that will maximize the potential medicaid benefits  
23 to all New Mexicans; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of human services

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1 and the secretary of corrections.

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